

September 13, 1999

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Philadelphia, PA 19149
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5159 '99 SEP 22 P1:41

DOCKETS MANAGEMENT BRANCH (HFA-305)
FOOD AND DRUG ADMINISTRATION
5630 FISHERS LANE
ROOM 1061
ROCKVILLE, MD 20852

DOCKET NUMBERS: 98N-1230; 96P-0418; 97P-0197

TO THE FDA:

The agricultural practice of forced molting in laying hens is a hazard to public safety. The hens are deprived of food and water for up to two weeks. This starvation and dehydration drastically impairs the immune systems of the hens and causes Salmonella in the birds and their eggs.

To simply put warning labels on egg cartons and regulating egg temperatures is not enough. Forced molting has been scientifically proven to destroy the immune systems in hens and should be stopped. The FDA has jurisdiction to ban agricultural practices that harm Human health. The FDA must ban forced molting because it is the main cause of disease in consumer eggs.

The FDA was petitioned in 1998 to ban forced molting. Please grant this petition without delay. Thank you.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read 'Helene Schwartz', with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

Helene Schwartz

98N 1230

C678

HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES
FOOD AND DRUG ADMINISTRATION
CROSS REFERENCE SHEET

Docket Number/Item Code: 98N-1230/C678

See Docket Number/Item Code: 97P-0197/C679
96P-0418/C678

SCHWARTZ
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